AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, between lines 2 and 3, please insert the section header:

Field of the Invention

Page 1, between lines 5 and 6, please insert the section header:

Background Information

Page 3, between lines 20 and 21, please insert the section header:

Summary of the Invention

Page 3, between lines 24 and 25, please insert the following paragraphs:

The present invention provides a radically coupled polytetrafluoroethylene polymer compound comprising at least one of radiation-chemically and plasma-chemically modified polytetrafluoroethylene powder including a surface, and at least one olefinically unsaturated polymer chemically radically coupled on the surface via a reactive conversion into melt.

The present invention also provides a method for producing a radically coupled polytetrafluoroethylene polymer compound comprising at least one of radiation-chemically and plasma-chemically modified polytetrafluoroethylene powder including a surface, and at least one olefinically unsaturated polymer chemically radically coupled on the surface via a reactive conversion into melt, comprising forming a melt of reactively converted polytetrafluoroethylene powder and at least one olefinically unsaturated polymer, the polytetrafluoroethylene powder including reactive perfluoroalkyl-(peroxy) radical centers after at least one of radiation-chemical and plasma-chemical modification.

The bonding site of the at least one olefinically unsaturated polymer with the surface can be randomly distributed on the polymer chain.

The polytetrafluoroethylene powder can be radiation-chemically modified.

The polytetrafluoroethylene powder can be radiation-chemically modified with a radiation dose greater than 50 kGy.

The polytetrafluoroethylene powder can be radiation-chemically modified with a radiation dose greater than 100 kGy.

The polytetrafluoroethylene powder can be radiation-chemically modified in presence of reactants.

The polytetrafluoroethylene powder can be radiation-chemically modified under influence of oxygen.

The at least one olefinically unsaturated polymer can include olefinically unsaturated groups in at least one of main chain and side chain of the at least one olefinically unsaturated polymer.

SBS, ABS, SBR, NBR, NR and other butadiene and/or isoprene-homo-, -co- or -ter-polymers can be radically coupled as olefinically unsaturated polymers.

The polytetrafluoroethylene powder can be a micropowder.

The reaction into a melt can be performed in a melt mixer.

The reaction into a melt can be performed in an extruder.

Page 3, please delete the paragraph appearing at lines 25 and 26.

Page 3, between lines 26 and 27, please insert the section header:

Detailed Description

Page 7, between lines 14 and 15, please insert the section header:

Examples